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Date: March 17, 2006

Pages including this
cover page: 2

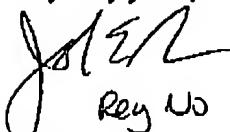
COMMENTS:

Applicant : Bellmann et al.
Application No. : 10/625,634
Filed : July 23, 2003
Title : Ophthalmic Compound with Extended Dwell Time on the Eye
Group/Art Unit : 1615
Examiner : Isis Ghali
Docket No. : P02819-C1

Dear Examiner Ghali:

Attached are proposed claims for our telephone call on March 21 at 2:00.

Very truly yours,



Reg No 34,070

JET/jd

Attachment

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Serial No. 10/625,634

Examiner Isis Ghali

Claim 16. An ophthalmic composition comprising:

a free-flowing, aqueous based gel vehicle with increased viscosity and comprising a viscosity-increasing polymer, and

a preservative consisting essentially of a benzyllauryldimethylammonium salt, wherein irritation or damage to eye tissue is avoided even when the composition is applied to eye tissue repeatedly over a lengthy period or resides on eye tissue for a lengthy period.

Claim 33. A composition for administration to the eye comprising a preservative in an amount effective to preserve the composition, the preservative consisting essentially of benzyllauryldimethylammonium salt, wherein irritation or damage to eye tissue is avoided even when the composition is applied to eye tissue repeatedly over a lengthy period or resides on eye tissue for a lengthy period, said composition having the form of an aqueous based gel and further comprising a viscosity-increasing polymer.

Claim 38. A method of preserving an ophthalmic composition, comprising employing benzyllauryldimethylammonium salt in an amount effective to preserve the composition, wherein irritation or damage to eye tissue is avoided even when the composition is applied to eye tissue repeatedly over a lengthy period or resides on eye tissue for a lengthy period, said composition having the form of an aqueous based gel and comprising a viscosity-increasing polymer.